



PO Box 1083  
Stafford Qld 4053

P: 07 3357 8277 (TTY)  
07 3357 8266 (voice)  
F: 07 3357 8377

[info@deafau.org.au](mailto:info@deafau.org.au)  
[www.deafau.org.au](http://www.deafau.org.au)

20 June 2012

Ms Sophie Dunstone  
Acting Committee Secretary  
Environment and Communications Legislation Committee  
The Senate  
By email: [ec.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:ec.sen@aph.gov.au)

Dear Ms Dunstone,

**Inquiry into the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Improved Access to Television Services) Bill 2012 [Provisions]**

Thank you for your letter of 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012, inviting Deaf Australia to provide a submission to the Inquiry.

We note that submissions are due by 12.00 pm on Thursday, 21 June 2012.

As your letter was received this afternoon, this gives us less than 24 hours to prepare a submission.

We would very much like to do so as captioning on television is a very important issue for deaf people. Unfortunately it is impossible for us to meet this deadline with our current resources. Deaf Australia is funded by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and we greatly appreciate this funding. We are not funded by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy to advise on communications related matters and unfortunately this impacts adversely on our ability to respond to requests for information or submissions on communications matters, especially those with very short time frames.

We previously sent a submission in response to the exposure draft for this Bill. That submission also was prepared at very short notice, one week, and due to our lack of staff resources it had to be prepared and sent by a volunteer. The best we are able to offer within the timeframe for the inquiry is to re-send that submission for your consideration.

We thank you for this invitation and regret that we are not able to provide a more considered and carefully written submission. We hope that what we are able to provide will be useful and fully considered by the inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Lloyd AM  
Executive Officer